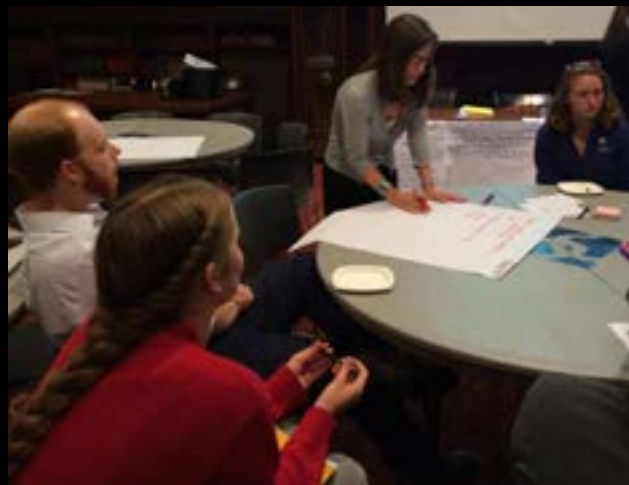


Theme 05: “FLEXIBILITY”

“Flexibility”: Exploring Fixed vs. Flexible vs. Evolving in the library

09/23 // "WHAT DOES FLEXIBLE MEAN TO YOU?"



planning - maybe adaptable/evolving more than flexible

★ EVOLVING - layering

- exhibit spaces
- cafe - could be a cart - teaching spaces
- computing not necessarily fixed! - innovation lab

★ MOBILE ← added new ^{descriptor} ~~definition~~

- who is enacting the change and over what amount of time?
- what are the characteristics of the space vs. of the technology

★ ADAPTABLE

- carrels - changes in use
- exhibit spaces

★ Shepley + Smith should create agreed-upon definitions for the scope of this project

CONSIDERATIONS:

- security
- temperature

fixed

unchangeable
unmoveable
inflexible
stable
not broken

video studio - specialized infrastructure
cafe - "
legacy spaces

evolving

present/future
growing
forward motion
progression
positive change

exhibit spaces
evolving tech needs

flexible

changeable
moveable
can be repurposed
suitable for multiple uses
+ ways of thinking

lots of range
seating < study
walls/dividers
(not tech. heavy)

adaptable

not rigid
accommodating
facilitates changing needs

stacks -

24 hr. room
classroom

★ FIXED

- square footage of the library
- stacks
- café - service/equipment
- video ~~room~~ studio
- legacy spaces

HOW? WHO? WHEN?

- campus rules make some things fixed -
ex. only certain people can move things
in the Browsing Room

★ FLEXIBLE

- seating
- study seating
- walls/dividers
- meeting spaces

- Relinquishing control
- study spaces
 - exhibit spaces
 - stacks

don't always
know how
people will
choose to
use the space
or tool

HOW? WHO? WHEN?

- students can move study spaces throughout the day
- staff can change displays - involves tech./lighting

Fixed = static, set, certain,

predetermined

↓
post

- square footage of bldg
- stacks
- cafe

Flexible = movable, fluid, variable

↓
present

short term

- study spaces
- exhibit space
- stacks
- meeting spaces

Evolving = changing, morphing, progress,

meeting changing needs

↓
future

- cafe
- computing
- teaching spaces
- innovation lab
- ~~stacks~~

Adaptable = same as flexible ???

changing due to surrounding

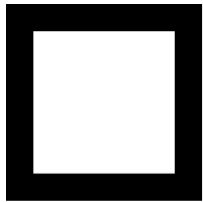
conditions

conforming to needs

- classrooms
- carrels

↓
future long term

Flexibility Lexicon



fixed

Past, specialized
infrastructure, static,
set, certain,
unchangeable,
unmovable, inflexible,
stable, not broken



evolving

Changing, morphing,
progress = meeting
changing needs

Present -to- future =
growing

Forward motion,
progression, positive
change



adaptable

“Requires outside
force to change”

Future, long-term

Not rigid,
accommodating,
facilitates changing
needs

Conforming to needs



flexible

Changeable,
moveable, can be
repurposed, suitable
for multiple uses,
fluid, variable,
relinquish control,
present, short term

Flexibility Lexicon



fixed

Café service equipment
Legacy spaces
Total square footage of library
Stacks
Video studio



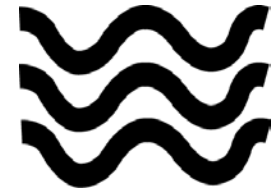
evolving

Computing
Evolving tech needs
Exhibit spaces
Teaching spaces



adaptable

Carrels
Event Space
Exhibit spaces
Teaching spaces
Stacks



flexible

Meeting spaces/
group spaces
Seating
Study seating
Not tech-heavy
Stacks / Curated collection

Major Influences on definitions



Time

Immediate change vs. change at regular intervals by staff vs. change over time to respond to changing needs



Users:

What level of user control or autonomy exists to implement change?



Level of technology / connectivity

Specialized infrastructure vs. plug and play



Mobility:

Wheels, light weight, made to move



Scale / connection to building or systems



Funding

Provide Feedback Here:

<http://www.smith.edu/libraryproject/feedback.php>